

EARLY HOMESTEADERS OF HIGHLAND

John Harry and Evaline Emily Mills Savill Builders of the DUP log cabin in Heritage Park

The Savill's homesteaded the 160 acres west of 6800 W and south of 10400 N. They built their log cabin in 1879 and were living there at 10315 N 6800 W, at the 1880 census with one daughter, Carey (Caroline). The census was misread and their name shows up as Lavill instead of Savill. Harry was 23 years old and Evaline was 20. Harry was born in Chagwell, Essex, England, about 1857 to Jesse and Priscilla Brazier Savill and came to New York from Liverpool aboard the "Minnesota", arriving September 17, 1872.

Evaline (spelled Avelina elsewhere) was born in Salt Lake City, Utah Territory on October 13, 1859 to William Gill and Emily Hill Mills. In the 1860 census she is listed as 8 months old, living with her parents in Salt Lake City. John and Evaline were married January 1, 1879 and moved into their log cabin in February. They had three other children after Caroline: Emily Hill, Willard Daniel and another, unnamed one. His homestead patent was perfected in May of 1890, signed by President Benjamin Harrison. In 1896 Harry transferred the property to Evaline's name and later that year she sold it to John van Steeter. It was later sold to Rufus Stice and the log cabin they built now stands in the Highland Heritage Park.

They cannot be located in the 1900 census but Evaline was later found to be living in Colonia Juarez, Mexico and died there March 7, 1920. Their daughter Caroline, born May 27, 1879, married John Eli Telford (perhaps a relative to William who lived just to the south of them in Highland) and she too, died a resident of Colonia Juarez on April 14, 1965.